

Claims

1. In a combination of a tractor and a loader mounted on the tractor and including at least one load bearing member mounted for being raised and lowered by operation of at least one powered device coupled to the load bearing member, the improvement comprising: an adjusting device coupled to said powered device and being operable for either lifting or lowering said load bearing member in response to receiving appropriate control signals; and a speech recognition device coupled to said adjusting device for transmitting said appropriate control signals thereto in response to receiving appropriate voice commands from an operator.

2. The combination, as defined in claim, and further including a position sensing device mounted for sensing the position of said load bearing member and producing a position signal representative of said position; said sensing device being coupled to said adjusting device for halting movement of said load bearing member at a pre-selected position corresponding to said position signal.

3. The combination, as defined in claim 1, wherein said speech recognition device includes a memory in which is stored information by which different operators are identified, with said speech recognition device sending out control signals only in response to voice commands of a recognized operator.

4. The combination, as defined in claim 1, and further including a an activating device coupled to said speech recognition device for selectively activating the latter.

5. The combination, as defined in claim 4, wherein said adjusting device includes a manually-operable device for effecting operation of said powered device exclusive of said speech recognition device.